

## Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

## -Lee Holloway -

## Chairman of the Board

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## COUNTY BOARD ENDORSES COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S FURLOUGH INITIATIVE

Ten additional furlough days for some union employees in 2010

**Milwaukee, WI** – The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors this morning voted 10-7 to endorse adding an additional ten furlough days for approximately 1,468 union-represented employees for 2010. The 2010 County Budget included wage and benefit changes affecting all staff, including represented employees. Because the County's unions have not yet agreed to these changes, the County Executive has decided to impose additional furlough days for some represented employees. The Board agreed with these furloughs to help address an expected 2010 budget deficit.

"As painful as it may be, the majority of Supervisors who voted for this resolution, in my humble opinion, are looking further down the road than just the here and now," Board Chairman Lee Holloway said. "They are trying to minimize the need for mass layoffs later this year, and I commend them for understanding the need to be proactive by issuing these additional furloughs."

To ensure the preservation of public health and safety, the resolution exempts employees in Combined Court Operations, the Office of the Sheriff, the District Attorney's Office, the Medical Examiner's Office, direct patient care personnel in 24/7 operations at the Behavioral Health Division, and other critical functions.

An amendment to the resolution adopted by Supervisors states that, in the event that a labor agreement is achieved consistent with the concessions set forth in the 2010 budget, any remaining furlough days would be rescinded. The amendment also requests that Department heads provide a report to the County Board detailing projected program and service reductions to be incurred as a result of the additional furlough days.

Along with Chairman Holloway, Supervisors Borkowski, Cesarz, Coggs, De Bruin, Jursik, Rice, Schmitt, Thomas, and West voted in favor of the resolution. Supervisors Clark, Dimitrijevic, Johnson, Larson, Lipscomb, Mayo and Weishan voted against. Supervisors Broderick and Sanfelippo were excused.